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Cold Regions Research & Engineering Laboratory

Mechanical properties of multi-year sea ice Phase II: Ice structure analysis



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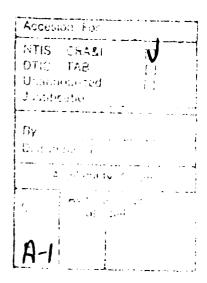
March 1988



# Mechanical properties of multi-year sea ice Phase II: Ice structure analysis

Jacqueline Richter-Menge and Nancy M. Perron





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# **PREFACE**

This report was prepared by Jacqueline Richter-Menge, Research Civil Engineer, and Nancy M. Perron, Physical Science Technician, Snow and Ice Branch, Research Division, U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory. The study was sponsored by the Shell Development Company and the Minerals Management Service of the Department of the Interior with support from Amoco Production Company, Exxon Production Research Company, and Sohio Petroleum Company.

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# Mechanical Properties of Multi-Year Sea Ice Phase II: Ice Structure Analysis

JACQUELINE RICHTER-MENGE AND NANCY M. PERRON

## INTRODUCTION

This report presents the ice structure analysis of multi-year pressure ridge samples tested in the second phase of a joint government-industry study. The study was initiated to examine systematically the structure and mechanical properties of ice samples taken from multi-year ridges. Interest in the properties of multi-year ridges stems from the fact that these ridges are the most frequently encountered, massive ice features in exposed areas of the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas. Deep-water oil platforms constructed in this area of the arctic must be designed, therefore, to withstand the impact of a multi-year ridge.

Both Phase I and Phase II of this program involved field sampling in the southern Beaufort Sea. The Phase I field program was conducted in April 1981 and involved the sampling of 10 different pressure ridges. A continuous, vertical multiyear ridge core was also specifically obtained for detailed structural analysis. A total of 220 unconfined uniaxial constant-strain-rate compression tests were performed on the vertically cored ice samples from the 10 ridges. The preliminary ice structure analysis of these test specimens indicated that the main factor contributing to large variations in the test results was associated with the extreme local variability of ice structure within a ridge. It became apparent that a complete and useful analysis of the multi-year ridge ice property test data would require a thorough structural interpretation of each test sample.

Additional multi-year ice from four ridges was collected in April 1982 for the Phase II tests. These field samples included horizontally and vertically cored ice samples taken in close proximity to one another. The matched pairs were tested in unconfined, uniaxial constant-strain-rate compression to investigate the effect of sample orientation on the test results. The remaining vertical ice samples were used in additional unconfined

compression tests and in confined constant-strainrate compression, constant-strain-rate tension, and constant load compression tests. A total of 188 tests were done in Phase II. During the Phase II field program, we also extracted a second vertically drilled continuous ridge core to augment the ice structure data obtained in Phase I.

This report includes the ice structure analysis of the Phase II multi-year pressure ridge test specimens with the exception of the constant load compression tests. We have also included the analysis of the continuous ridge core taken during the second field program. The structural analysis of the ice samples tested in Phase I is presented in Richter-Menge et al. (1987). Discussions on the field sampling program and the test results and analyses for Phases I and II can be found in Cox et al. (1984, 1985, respectively).

# SAMPLE ANALYSIS

The structural characteristics of the continuous multi-year ridge core and the Phase II ridge test specimens were evaluated using the same techniques described in Richter-Menge et al. (1987). Briefly, ice thin sections were prepared from the sample after testing (Fig. 1). If a sample was destroyed during the test, end pieces taken immediately adjacent to the test specimen were used to interpret the structural composition of the sample. The ice type was determined by studying the photographs taken of the thin sections in crossed polaroid light.

The ice type of each sample was described according to the multi-year pressure ridge ice structural classification scheme summarized in Table 1. Figure 2 shows a series of thin sections, photographed between crossed polarizers, that illustrates the principal structural characteristics of each ice type. This structural classification scheme divides the ice into three major ice-texture categor-

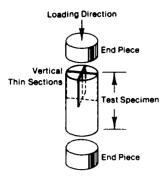


Figure 1. Sections used in the analysis of the structural characteristics of the tested ice samples.

Table 1. Structural classification scheme for multiyear pressure ridge ice samples.

Ice type	Code	Structural characteristics
Granular	I	Isotropic, equiaxed crystals
Columnar	11	Elongated, columnar grains
	IIA	Columnar sea ice with c-axes normal to growth direction; axes may or may not be aligned
	IIC	Columnar freshwater ice
Mixed	111	Combination of Types I and III
	IIIA	Largely Type II with granular veins
	IIIB	Largely Type I with inclusions of
		Type II ice (brecciated ice)

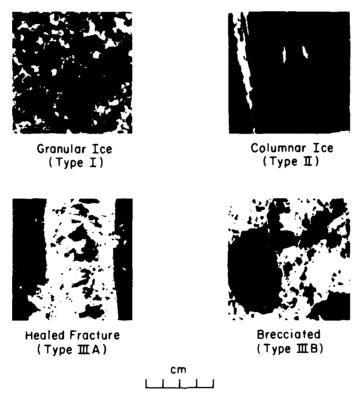


Figure 2. Structural characteristics of multi-year ice types.

ies: granular, columnar, or a mixture of columnar and granular ice. If a sample was classified as columnar or contained large ( $\geq 10$  cm) fragments of columnar ice, the ice thin sections were analyzed on the Rigsby universal stage (Langway 1958). Using these measurements we defined the mean angle between the crystallographic c-axes and the load direction ( $\sigma$ : $\sigma$ ) and the degree of alignment of the c-axes ( $\sigma$  spread).

We also used the thin section analysis to determine the angle between the columns, or direction of elongation of the crystals, and the load  $(\sigma:z)$ . In an undeformed sheet of first-year sea ice the crystals are elongated vertically  $(\sigma:z=0^{\circ})$ , parallel to the growth direction of the sheet. The c-axes of these crystals are usually located in the horizontal plane of the ice sheet, normal to the elongation direction of the crystals. By observing the orienta-

tion of the crystallographic c-axes and the direction of elongation of the crystals in the ridge samples, we can determine the arrangement of some of the columnar fragments of first-year sea ice that have been incorporated into a ridge. The photographed thin sections of each sample helped to confirm these measurements.

Note that all of our samples, both horizontally and vertically cored, were cylindrical. The compressive or tensile load was applied along the cylindrical axis of the samples. For vertically cored samples then,  $\sigma:z$  also represents the angle between the direction of elongation and the vertical. Thin sections taken perpendicular to the load were used for the crystallographic measurements to avoid misinterpretation as a result of apparent dip and plunge.

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The granular ice in the thin sections was not analyzed on the universal stage because the grain size was too fine, averaging 1 mm in diameter. The granular ice was observed between crossed polarizers, and the crystals appeared to be randomly oriented.

The maximum, minimum, and mean grain sizes of the columnar and/or granular crystals in each sample were estimated by using the thin section photographs. Each photograph included a millimeter scale next to the thin section for grain-size analysis. The grain-size measurements in the tension tests were made at the location of the failure plane. Unlike the compression tests, the tension samples all failed via an extension mechanism. The failure plane was normal to the load and easily identified in the thin section photographs. For the compression test specimens, we based our grain-size measurements on the textural characteristics of the entire sample.

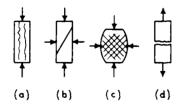


Figure 3. Typical failure modes. In compression: a) longitudinal splitting, b) shear fracture, and c) multiple shear fractures. In tension: d) extension fracture. (From Jaeger and Cook 1969.)

Backlighting was used to determine the gross structural features of the ice sample. Photographs of the sample at noted positions were taken before and after the test. The two sets of photographs were compared to distinguish between original and test-created ice textures in the unconfined and confined compression tests where the ice underwent considerable deformation. The post-test photographs of the sample were also used to determine the mode and location of the failure. The type of failure was described using Figure 3, taken from Jaeger and Cook (1969).

The Phase II continuous multi-year pressure ridge core was indexed with a vertical line along its entire length before thin sectioning. The core was then cut into 10-cm segments and thin-sectioned. A continuous structural profile of this core was prepared from the photographs taken of these thin sections between crossed polarizers. This structural profile is presented in Cox et al. (1985) together with a detailed description of the ice structure.

# CONTINUOUS MULTI-YEAR RIDGE CORE

A schematic structural profile of the Phase II continuous vertical multi-year pressure ridge core is presented in Figure 4. Well-defined columnar zones in the core, indicated by the letter C, include a measurement of the angle between the direction of elongation of the crystals and the vertical  $(\sigma:z)$ . We also note whether the crystal c-axes in the columnar ice were aligned or unaligned.

Nearly 50% of the ice in the Phase II core is columnar. The zones of columnar ice are distributed throughout the core, unlike the Phase I continuous core in which most of the columnar ice was concentrated at the bottom of the core. The remainder of the Phase II core is a combination of granular ice and mixed granular and columnar crystals. The mixed ice is predominately brecciated, composed of columnar fragments in a granular matrix. Based on these characteristics, it would appear that this multi-year ridge (ridge C) was initially formed by the compression of two adjacent ice sheets. We would anticipate a much lower percentage of columnar ice in a ridge formed by shearing.

As observed in the Phase I continuous ridge core and many of the Phase I test samples, the angle between the vertical and the direction of elongation of the crystals in the columnar zones of

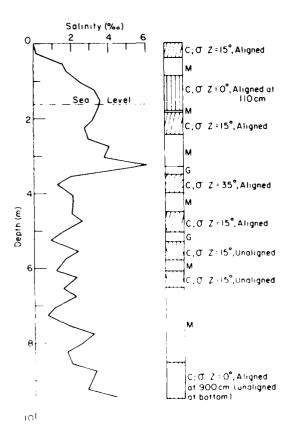


Figure 4. Salinity and schematic structural profile for the Phase II continuous multi-year pressure ridge core. G = granular ice, C = columnar ice,  $M = mixed\ granular\ and\ columnar\ ice.$ 

the Phase II core is 15° or less. There is only one exception: at 350 cm, one section of columnar ice has a  $\sigma$ :z angle of 35°. This indicates that in ridge C, the columnar blocks were lying in a near-horizontal position ( $\sigma$ :z < 20°).

# TESTED MULTI-YEAR RIDGE ICE SAMPLES

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In this section we present the results of the ice structure analysis of the Phase II multi-year-ridge test specimens. Phase I results are included for comparison whenever it is appropriate. This additional data has helped us in the interpretation of the effect of ice structure on the Phase II test results. The structural classification and crystallographic measurements made on each Phase II test specimen are given in Appendix A. The samples are grouped according to test condition. The fracture mode for the tension tests is not listed in these

Table 2. Columnar ice samples tested in Phase II, including both columnar and mixed samples with 80% or more columnar ice.

Test type	Ridge no.	Total samples tested	Total columnar samples	% columnar samples
Unconfined	Α	9	0	0
compression	C	53	20	38
Confined	Α	22	0	0
compression	В	33	7	21
Tension	Α	15	1	7
	В	21	2	10
Total		153	30	20

tables since all of the samples failed via an extension mechanism (Fig. 3d). In Table 2, we have listed the total number of Phase II samples tested in each major loading state, noting the ridges that the samples were taken from and the number of columnar samples in each group.

# Unconfined constant-strain-rate compression tests

The Phase II unconfined, uniaxial constantstrain-rate compression tests were done at two temperatures (-5 and -20°C) and two strain rates (10<sup>-2</sup> and 10<sup>-4</sup>/s). The test parameters were chosen to complement the unconfined constant-strain-rate compression tests done in Phase I at the same temperature, but at strain rates of 10<sup>-3</sup> and 10<sup>-3</sup>/s. Matched pairs of horizontally and vertically cored samples were tested at -5 and -20°C and a strain rate of 10<sup>-4</sup>/s to determine the effect of sample orientation on the compressive strength of the multi-year ice. These samples were paired according to their location within the ridge. We have summarized the percent granular, columnar, and mixed ice samples at each test condition in Phase I and II in Table 3. As noted in the Phase I ice structure analysis report (Richter-Menge et al. 1987), the most common ice type by far is the mixed columnar and granular ice. Columnar ice was the dominant ice type at only one Phase II test condition: -20°C and 10<sup>-4</sup>/s. The distribution of ice types is relatively consistent among all other test groups.

The compressive strength of the multi-year ridge samples is plotted against sample porosity and the structural classification is indicated for each test specimen in Figures 5a through d. We

Table 3. Summary of percent granular, columnar, and mixed ice samples at each Phase I and Phase II unconfined compression test condition.

		_	5°C _				20°C	
	10 <sup>-2</sup> /s	10-3	10-4	10-3	10-2	10-3	10-4	10-5
Granular	0	7	O	10	11	3	0	2
Columnar	22	25	16 (20)	19	11	20	56 (46)	20
Mixed	78	68	84 (80)	71	78	77	44 (54)	78
Total samples tested	9	69	19 (9)	71	9	41	25 (13)	41

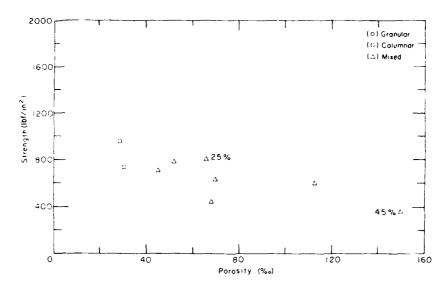
( ) Vertically cored samples only

have also included all of the crystallographic data on the measured angle between the load and direction of elongation of the crystals  $(\sigma:z)$ , the angle between the load and the mean crystallographic c-axis  $(\sigma:c)$ , and the degree of alignment in the plane perpendicular to the elongation direction (° spread) for the columnar and mixed ice samples. The percentage of columnar ice in the sample is given for the mixed ice samples and for columnar ice samples that were not 100% columnar. We were unable to determine the percentage of columnar ice in the mixed ice samples for many of the  $10^{-2}$ /s tests (Fig. 5a and c) since these samples were destroyed during the test. In Figures 5b and 5d, the horizontally cored samples are denoted.

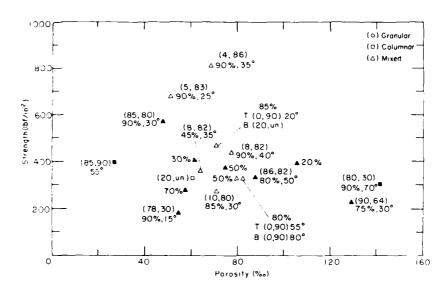
255.050.050 Particles (250.050) (250.050) (250.050)

In general, the influence of ice structure and crystal orientation on the unconfined compressive strength of the Phase II samples is similar to that described for the Phase I ice samples in Richter-Menge et al. (1987). At a strain rate of 10<sup>-4</sup>/s and temperature of -20°C (Fig. 5d), the highest strength samples are composed of columnar ice with the direction of crystal elongation parallel to the load ( $\sigma$ : $z \le 10^{\circ}$ ) and a relatively small degree of c-axis alignment (≤ 50°). We again observe a rapid drop-off in the compressive strength of the columnar samples as  $\sigma:z$  increases from 0°. The mixed ice samples with a high percentage of columnar ice (80% or more) exhibit characteristics similar to the columnar ice samples. This is evident in the tests done at a strain rate of 10<sup>-4</sup>/s and temperature of -5°C (Fig. 5b). These mixed ice samples lie on the perimeter of the strength vs porosity band. At all test conditions, 10<sup>-4</sup> and 10<sup>-2</sup>/s, there is a tendency for the compressive strength of the mixed and granular ice samples to decrease with an increase in porosity. The influence of grain size on the compressive strength of the ridge samples appears insignificant compared to the effects of crystal orientation and porosity.

All of the matched sample pairs we tested were obtained from ridge C, the same ridge that provided the continuous ridge core described in the previous section. The tests done on the matched pairs (Fig. 5b and d) do indicate that the mean compressive strength of ice samples from a multi-year ridge is dependent on sample orientation. Vertically cored samples tend to give a higher mean strength than horizontally cored samples. The dependence of mean compressive strength on sample orientation can be explained by sample ice structure. The ice structure analysis of the ridges that we have sampled, including ridge C, suggests that most of the large columnar ice blocks in a multi-year ridge that was initially formed by compression lie in a near-horizontal position. At this orientation the direction of elongation of the crystals or the columns in these large ice blocks is near vertical. The columnar ice samples collected from vertical coring will therefore be loaded nearly parallel to the direction of crystal elongation ( $\sigma$ : $z = 0^{\circ}$ ). This is the hard fail direction in columnar ice. Horizontally cored columnar ridge samples tend to have an angle of 90° between the long columns and the applied load ( $\sigma$ :z = 90°). Work by Peyton (1966) and Timco and Frederking (1986) has shown that columnar ice samples loaded parallel to the elongated crystal axes have compressive strengths 2 to 4 times higher than samples loaded normal to the direction of elongation. Mixed ice samples with large (≥ 10-cm) fragments of columnar ice are also affected by the orientation of the columnar ice within them. If the columnar fragments in the sample are oriented with the direction of crystal elongation parallel to the load ( $\sigma:z=0^{\circ}$ ), the sample will fail at a relatively high load and deformation will occur in the granular material surrounding the columnar fragments. The difference between the mean compressive strength of vertically and horizontally cored samples will depend on the



# a. Tests conducted at 10-1/s and -5°C.



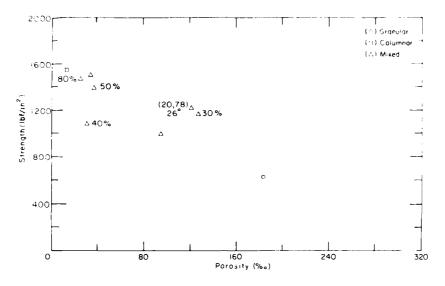
b. Tests conducted at 10-4/s and -5°C.

Figure 5. Unconfined, constant-strain-rate compressive strength vs porosity for all Phase II ridge ice samples with the structural classification indicated for each sample. Open symbols = vertically cored samples; closed symbols = horizontally cored samples. Crystallographic measurements indicated next to each sample:  $(\sigma:z, \sigma:c)$ , % columnar, ° spread.

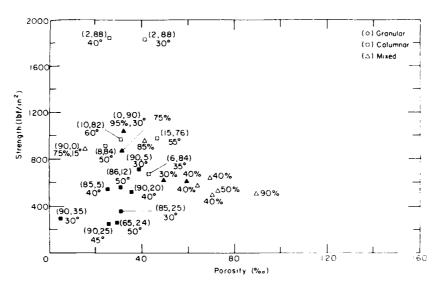
number of columnar test specimens in the test series and their crystallographic orientation relative to the load. The results from the tests on the matched ridge ice sample pairs are discussed in more detail in Richter-Menge and Cox (1985).

The influence of the c-axis orientation relative to the load  $(\sigma : c)$  on the compressive strength of the

columnar samples is evident in Figure 5d. The majority of horizontal samples tested at this condition were columnar and had an angle of approximately 90° between the direction of elongation and the load, which was applied along the cylindrical axis of the test specimen ( $\sigma$ :z = 90°). These horizontal samples had a higher strength when  $\sigma$ :c



c. Tests conducted at 10-2/s and -20°C.



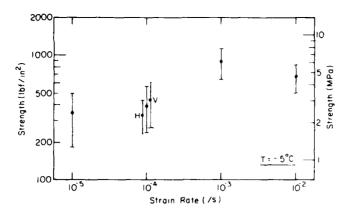
d. Tests conducted at 10-4/s and -20°C.

Figure 5 (cont'd).

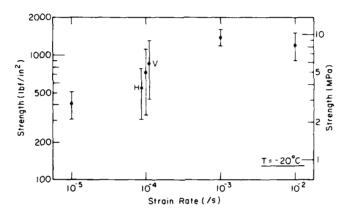
was near  $0^{\circ}$ . As the  $\sigma$ :c angle increased, the compressive strength decreased significantly. This behavior is well documented in reports on the compressive strength of horizontally cored first-year sea ice samples [Richter-Menge et al. (1986), Wang (1979), and Peyton (1966)]. The first-year sea ice tests have shown that the compressive strength of horizontal samples loaded parallel to the c-axes  $(\sigma:c=0^{\circ})$  is greater than the strength of samples loaded perpendicular to the c-axes  $(\sigma:c=0^{\circ})$ 

90°) and that both are greater in strength than a sample where  $\sigma:c=45^{\circ}$ .

The Phase I and II unconfined, uniaxial compressive strength data is combined in a mean strength vs strain rate plot in Figure 6. We have noted the compressive strength of the horizontal and vertical samples at 10<sup>-4</sup>/s separately in the figure. All of the test specimens used at the other test conditions were from vertically cored ice. We will compare the test results from the Phase I and II



a. Samples tested at -5°C.



b. Samples tested at -20°C.

Figure 6. Unconfined, constant-strain-rate mean compressive strength vs strain rate. H = horizontally cored samples only, V = vertically cored samples only. The bars denote one standard deviation.

vertically cored samples only, since the orientation of the samples does affect the compressive strength.

As discussed in the Phase II report on test results (Cox et al. 1985), we would expect a power law relationship between the ice strength and strain rate in the ductile region between 10<sup>-3</sup> and 10<sup>-3</sup>/s (Mellor 1983). This relationship, which plots as a straight line on log-log paper, was not observed in our test results. The porosity variations between the Phase I and II samples appeared to explain this deviation. After analyzing the icestructure characteristics of the samples tested in each group, however, it becomes apparent that variations in the overall structural composition of each test group also affect the test results.

The Phase I structural analysis indicated that, at -5°C, both the 10<sup>-3</sup> and 10<sup>-3</sup>/s sample groups were characterized by an isolated cluster of extremely high-strength columnar samples. These columnar samples were loaded such that  $\sigma:z<10^\circ$ . The two Phase I sample groups tested at -20°C did not exhibit this characteristic. The structural analysis of the Phase II ice samples tested at a strain rate of 10<sup>-4</sup>/s (Fig. 5b and d) shows that at -20°C there is an isolated group of extremely high-strength columnar samples and at -5°C there is none. These differences are reflected in the mean strength vs strain rate plots. At -5°C (Fig. 6a), the mean strength of the 10-4/s vertical samples falls below a straight line drawn between 10-3 and 10-3 test results of Phase I. The mean strength of the 10<sup>-4</sup>/s samples tested at -20°C lies above this line (Fig. 6b).

Variations in the structural composition of the -5 and -20°C, 10<sup>-2</sup>/s tests are also likely to help explain the apparent decrease in strength relative to the tests done at 10<sup>-3</sup>/s. We anticipated a leveling off in strength between 10<sup>-3</sup> and 10<sup>-2</sup> based on work by Richter-Menge et al. (1986) on first-year sea ice and by Blair (1986) on transversely isotropic columnar, saline ice grown in the laboratory. Unfortunately, only a few ice samples tested at 10<sup>-2</sup>/s could be structurally analyzed since the majority of samples were destroyed during the tests. The ice fails in an explosively brittle manner at these test conditions. Thin sections of the end pieces taken immediately adjacent to the test specimen were subsequently lost due to melting during failure of the cold-storage room.

# Confined constant-strain-rate compression tests

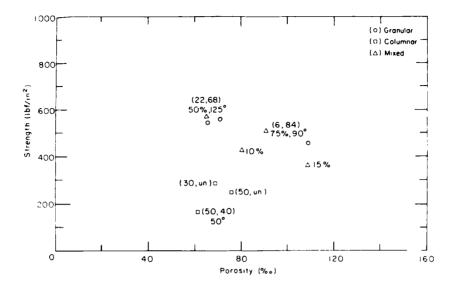
The confined or conventional triaxial constantstrain-rate compression tests were done using the triaxial cell developed in Phase I (Mellor et al. 1984). This triaxial cell was designed to ramp the radial confining pressure in constant proportion to the axial stress being applied;  $\sigma_1 > \sigma_2 = \sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2/\sigma_1$  = constant. The Phase II confined compression tests were done at two temperatures (-5 and -20°C), two strain rates (10<sup>-3</sup> and 10<sup>-5</sup>/s), and two  $\sigma_2/\sigma_1$  ratios (0.25 and 0.50). The axial stress and the radial stress are represented by  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$ , respectively. A total of 55 confined compression tests were completed. Plots of strength vs porosity that include the structural classification and crystallographic measurements of the tested ice samples are given in Figures 7a through f. In Table 4, we have summarized the percent granular, columnar, and mixed ice samples at each test condition.

The distribution of ice types at a given test condition is relatively consistent. The majority of samples consists of a mixture of columnar and granular ice, similar to the Phase I and Phase II unconfined compression test samples. There is one exception: at a strain rate of 10<sup>-1</sup>/s, temperature of -5°C, and confinement ratio of 0.25, there are approximately the same number of samples in each ice type category.

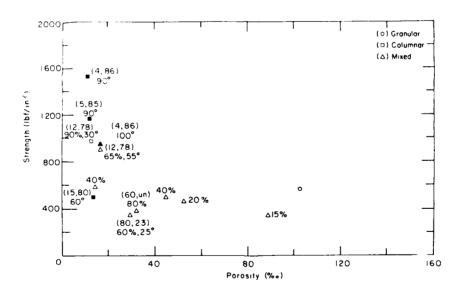
We would anticipate the influence of ice structure in the confined compression tests to be similar to that observed in the unconfined compression tests given the common deformational mechanisms. In general, we did observe this to be the case. Columnar samples with a  $\sigma$ :z angle near 45° had a low compressive strength (Fig. 7a). There was an increase in strength as  $\sigma$ :z became greater than or less than 45°. The columnar and mixed ice samples from ridge B, which were used in half of these tests, tended to have a high  $\sigma$ :z angle. Consequently, we did not observe any isolated groups of highstrength columnar samples in the confined compression tests on the multi-year ridge samples. This should be noted when combining the results of the confined compression tests and the Phase I unconfined compression tests data to define the characteristics of the yield surface. Recall that in Phase I the columnar ice samples generally had low  $\sigma$ :z angles. As we discussed in the combined analysis of the unconfined compression test data from Phase I and II, differences in the overall icestructure characteristics of the test groups do affect the relative mean strengths. Addition of the multi-year floe ice samples tested in Phase I at a confinement ratio of 0.46 does show that in the confined tests, columnar samples with a  $\sigma$ :z angle near 0° tend to have the highest strength (Fig. 7b and c).

Table 4. Summary of percent granular, columnar, and mixed ice samples at each Phase II confined compression test condition.

		-5°C			-20°C	
$\sigma_1/\sigma_1 =$	0.25 10 <sup>-5</sup> /s	0.50 10-1	0.50 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.25 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.50 10-3	0.50 10 <sup>-1</sup>
Granular	30	11	22	22	11	11
Columnar	30	11	11	11	11	0
Mixed	40	78	67	67	78	89
Total samples tested	10	9	9	9	9	9

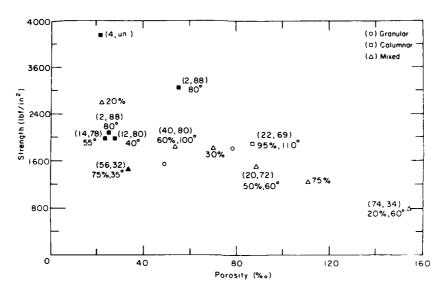


a. Phase II multi-year ridge samples tested at  $10^{-5}/s$ , -5 °C, and  $\sigma_2/\sigma_1=0.25$ .

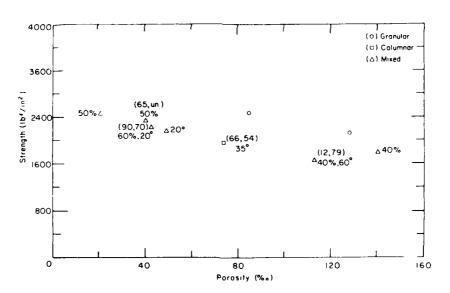


b. Phase II multi-year ridge samples (open symbols) tested at  $10^{-5}$ /s, -5 °C, and  $\sigma_2/\sigma_1 = 0.50$  and Phase I multi-year floe samples (closed symbols) tested at  $10^{-5}$ /s, -5 °C,  $\sigma_2/\sigma_1 = 0.46$ .

Figure 7. Confined, constant-strain-rate compressive strength vs porosity for all Phase II ridge samples with the structural classification indicated for each sample. Phase I multi-year floe test data is included when appropriate. Crystallographic measurements indicated next to each sample: ( $\sigma$ :z,  $\sigma$ :c), % columnar, ° spread.

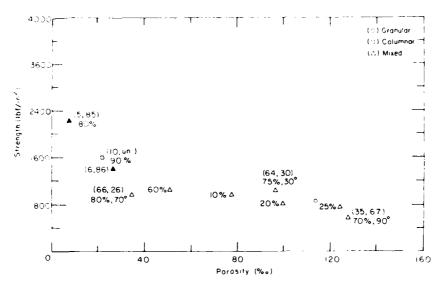


c. Phase II multi-year ridge samples (open symbols) tested at  $10^{-3}/s$ , -5°C, and  $\sigma_2/\sigma_1 = 0.50$  and Phase I multi-year floe samples (closed symbols) tested at  $10^{-3}/s$ , -5°C,  $\sigma_2\sigma_1 = 0.46$ .

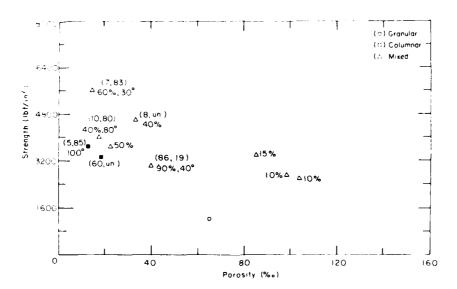


d. Phase II multi-year ridge samples tested at  $10^{-3}/s$ ,  $-20^{\circ}$ C, and  $\sigma_{1}/\sigma_{1}=0.25$ .

Figure 7 (cont'd).



e. Phase II multi-year ridge samples (open symbols) tested at  $10^{-5}/s$ ,  $-20^{\circ}$ C, and  $\sigma_{1}/\sigma_{1}=0.50$  and Phase I multi-year floe samples (closed symbols) tested at  $10^{-5}/s$ ,  $-20^{\circ}$ C, and  $\sigma_{2}/\sigma_{1}=0.46$ .



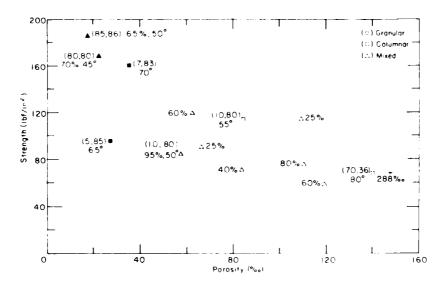
f. Phase II multi-year ridge samples (open symbols) tested at  $10^{-3}/s$ ,  $-20^{\circ}$ C, and  $\sigma_2/\sigma_1=0.50$  and Phase I multi-year floe samples (closed symbols) tested at  $10^{-3}/s$ ,  $-20^{\circ}$ C, and  $\sigma_2/\sigma_1=0.46$ .

Figure 7 (cont'd). Confined, constant-strain-rate compressive strength vs porosity for all Phase II ridge samples with the structural classification indicated for each sample. Phase I multi-year floe test data is included when ap propriate. Crystallographic measurements indicated next to each sample:  $(\sigma:z, \sigma:c)$ , % columnar, ° spread.

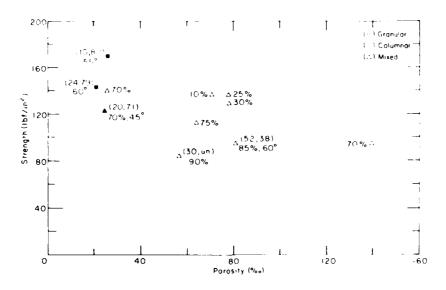
The confined compressive strength of mixed and granular ice samples shows a strong tendency to decrease with an increase in porosity at all test conditions. Those mixed ice samples with a high percent of columnar ice (80% or more) lie on the outside of the strength vs porosity band. As we discussed in the previous section, this is a result of the orientation of the columnar fragments within the sample.

## Uniaxial constant-strain-rate tension tests

Direct tension tests were done on 36 multi-yearridge ice samples in Phase II of the program. All of these samples failed via an extension mechanism as illustrated in Figure 3d. Tensile strength is plotted against sample porosity in Figure 8. We have included the structural classification and crystallographic measurements for the samples in this figure.

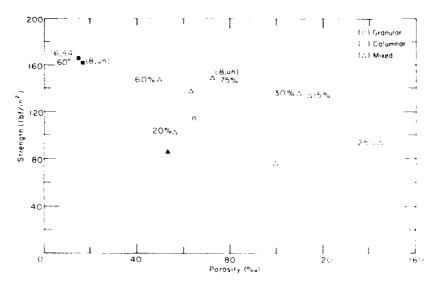


a. Samples tested at 10-3/s and -5°C.

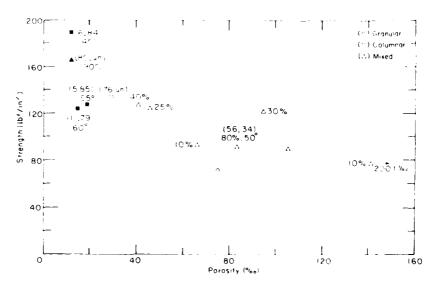


b. Samples tested at 10-3/s and -5°C.

Figure 8. Constant-strain-rate tensile strength vs porosity for all Phase II ridge samples with the structural classification indicated for each sample. Phase I multi-year floe test data is included and is indicated by a closed symbol. Crystallographic measurements indicated next to each sample: (a:z, a:c), % columnar, o spread.



c. Samples tested at 10<sup>-3</sup>/s and -20°C.



d. Samples tested at 10-3/s and -20°C.

Figure 8 (cont'd). Constant-strain-rate tensile strength vs porosity for all Phase II ridge samples with the structural classification indicated for each sample. Phase I multi-year floe test data is included and is indicated by a closed symbol. Crystallographic measurements indicated next to each sample:  $(\sigma:z, \sigma:c)$ , % columnar, ° spread.

All but six of the multi-year-ridge ice samples tested in tension consisted of a mixture of columnar and granular ice (Table 5). Three of the remaining samples were columnar and three were granular. To gain a more complete understanding of the influence of ice structure on the tensile strength of the multi-year ice, we have included

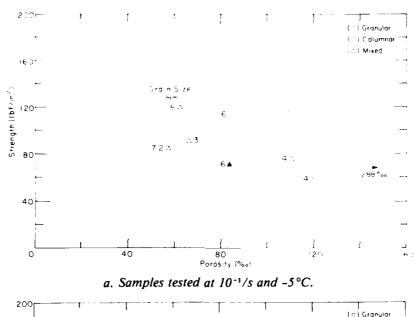
the Phase I multi-year floe ice test results in Figure 8. The floe ice was predominately columnar. Based on the combined results, it appears that the tensile strength of multi-year ice shows little dependency on ice type. We do observe that the columnar ice samples tend to have a higher strength than the mixed and granular ice samples at all test condi-

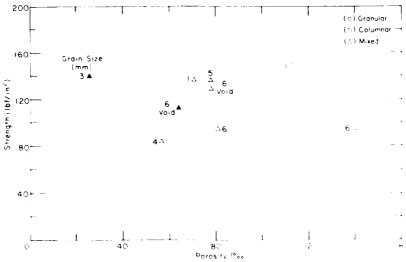
Table 5. Summary of percent granular, columnar, and mixed ice samples at each Phase II uniaxial tension test condition.

	-5°	C	-20	)°C
	10·3/s	10-1	10-3	10-1
Granular	0	11	11	11
Columnar	22	0	0	11
Mixed	78	89	89	78
Total samples tested	9	9	9	9

seed seeds by seeded named to

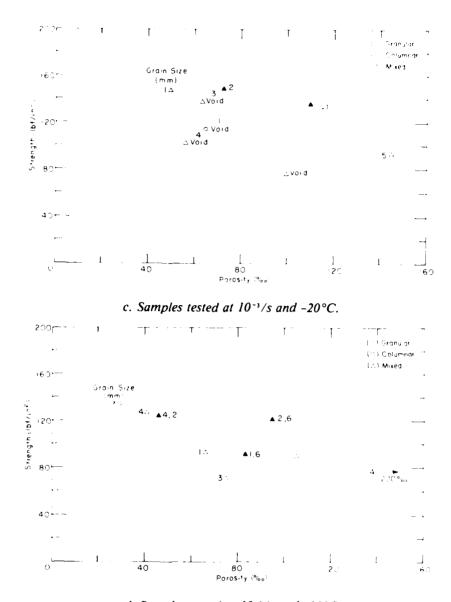
tions. We believe that this is due to the generally lower porosity of these columnar samples rather than differences in the ice type. If the columnar structure of the ice was the reason for the increased tensile strength, we would expect to see a relationship between the orientation of the columns relative to the load  $(\sigma:z)$  and the strength. Such a relationship has been observed by both Peyton (1966) and Dykins (1970) in tests on first-year sea ice samples. In Peyton's test the tensile strength of the ice varied from 290 lb/in.² at a  $\sigma:z$  orientation of  $0^{\circ}$  to  $100 \text{ lb/in.}^2$  at an orientation of  $\sigma:z = 90^{\circ}$  and





b. Samples tested at 10-3/s and -5°C.

Figure 9. Constant-strain-rate tensile strength vs porosity for all Phase II ridge samples with the mean grain size (mm) at the failure plane indicated for each sample. Failure at an abrupt change in ice type is denoted by a closed symbol. Failure coincident with a void is also indicated.



d. Samples tested at 10-5/s and -20°C.

Figure 9 (cont'd). Constant-strain-rate tensile strength vs porosity for all Phase II ridge samples with the mean grain size (mm) at the failure plane indicated for each sample. Failure at an abrupt change in ice type is denoted by a closed symbol. Failure coincident with a void is also indicated.

 $\sigma$ :  $c = 45^{\circ}$ . The tests by Dykins supported these findings. Our test data do not indicate this trend. We do note, however, that a columnar ice sample with a porosity comparable to a mixed or granular ice sample also has a comparable strength (Fig. 8a and d).

We also analyzed the effect of grain size on the tensile strength of the multi-year-ridge ice samples. In Figure 9, we have indicated the mean grain size measured at the failure plane for each test sample. Two values next to a data point indicate that the failure plane crossed both columnar and granular ice crystals. The larger number represents the mean columnar grain size and the smaller, the mean granular grain size. Results from direct tension tests on freshwater, equiaxed polycrystalline ice (Currier and Schulson 1982) show an inverse relationship between grain size and tensile strength.

This relationship was not apparent in our test results. We did observe a tendency for the mixed samples ice to fail in the part of the specimen where the grains were coarser. There were exceptions, including mixed ice samples with columnar fragments oriented in the hard fail direction ( $\sigma$ :z = 0°). These samples failed in the finer-grained ice that surrounded the fragments. Other mixed ice samples failed at abrupt changes in ice structure. One consistent observation was the coincidence of failure planes with large (> 1 cm), isolated voids in the samples. The samples that failed at structural discontinuities and voids are indicated in Figure 9.

It becomes apparent on these plots that while the location of the failure plane may be influenced by grain size, changes in the ice structure, and large voids, the tensile strength of the samples is not. Instead, the porosity of the sample seems to be the dominant characteristic influencing the tensile strength of the multi-year-ridge ice samples. This is true at all test conditions.

## **DISCUSSION**

A total of 14 multi-year pressure ridges have been sampled in the course of this mechanical properties test program. We have structurally analyzed ice test specimens from 13 of these ridges. In Table 6, we list the number and percent of columnar samples tested in each of the ridges. We have included as columnar those mixed samples that are made up of 80% or more columnar ice. Our Phase I and II test results suggest that these mixed ice samples behave similarly to the columnar ice samples.

The amount of columnar ice varies from ridge to ridge. As we discussed in the Phase I ice structure analysis report (Richter-Menge et al. 1987), we believe this is due to differences in the mode of formation of the ridge. Ridges initially formed by the compression of one first-year ice sheet against another contain large blocks of columnar ice. The ice in a ridge formed by shearing, on the other hand, is highly fragmented. Samples taken from ridges should reflect these differences. We would expect to get a higher percentage of columnar samples from a multi-year pressure ridge formed by compression than from one formed in shear.

A frequency histogram of the number of columnar samples in a given  $\sigma:z$  orientation is presented in Figure 10. The frequency histogram of the Phase I columnar samples was originally present-

Table 6. Columnar ice samples tested in Phase I and II. These samples include both columnar and mixed samples with 80% or more columnar ice.

Ridge no.	Total samples tested	Total columnar samples	% columnar samples
		Phase I	
1	23	13	57
2	24	4	17
3	22	3	14
4	22	6	27
5	22	5	23
6	12	0	0
7	23	6	26
8	24	15	63
9	24	1	4
10	24	8	33
		Phase II	
Α	46	1	2
В	54	9	17
C	53	20	38
Total	373	91	24

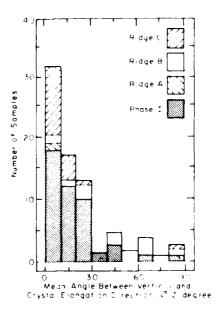


Figure 10. Frequency histogram of the Phase I and II columnar ridge ice samples in a given  $\sigma$ :z orientation.

ed and discussed in Richter-Menge et al. (1987). In that report we noted the relatively large number of low  $\sigma$ :z measurements. Based on this observation, we concluded that in the 10 ridges we sampled during Phase I the blocks of columnar, first-year sea ice that were incorporated into the ridge during its formation were lying in a near horizontal position. The vertically cored, columnar samples taken from these ridges tended to have a high compressive strength since they were loaded in the hardfail direction ( $\sigma$ :z = 10°). We further anticipated that the mean compressive strength obtained from a series of tests on vertical ridge samples would be higher than the mean value obtained from horizontal samples. The horizontal columnar samples would tend to be loaded normal to the elongated crystal axis ( $\sigma$ :z = 90°), giving a lower compressive strength and, hence, a lower overall mean strength. The difference would be strongly dependent on the amount of columnar ice in the test series and the orientation of the columnar ice crystals.

PROGRAM RECERCES INDIVIDUAL

Phase II unconfined compression tests on matched horizontal and vertical pairs collected during the second field program confirmed our hypothesis (Richter-Menge and Cox 1985). As we discussed earlier in this report, we found the effect of sample orientation on the mean compressive strength of multi-year-ridge ice samples tested at a given condition to be significant (Fig. 5b and d). The difference was greater in the test series with a higher percent of columnar samples (Fig. 5d).

The results of the compression tests on matched horizontal and vertical pairs would probably have been different, however, had we taken our samples from ridge B. The samples taken from this ridge tended to have a high  $\sigma$ :z angle, as indicated in Figure 10. Our compression test results on the ridge samples suggest that columnar samples with a  $\sigma$ :z angle near 45° are generally weaker than mixed or granular ice samples with comparable porosities. Columnar samples with  $15^{\circ} < \sigma : z <$ 35° or 55°  $< \sigma$ : z < 90° have strengths comparable to the mixed ice samples. We would therefore expect the mean compressive strength of vertically cored samples taken from ridge B to be comparable to the strength obtained from horizontal samples.

Based on our sampled ridge population, it still appears that the columnar blocks within a ridge tend to be in a near horizontal direction with the elongated crystal axis near vertical. The characteristics of the ridge B columnar ice samples show us, however, that this is not always the case. This ob-

servation again points out the importance of the ice structure analysis for the interpretation of multi-year ice data. Each data group is unique with respect to the number of granular, columnar, and mixed ice samples and the orientation of the columnar ice within the samples. These variations in ice structure, combined with differences in porosity, will be reflected in the mean strengths. Without a thorough structural analysis of the ice types in all of the test groups, the combined results of a program could lead to erroneous conclusions. This is particularly true with respect to the compressive strength of the ice, both unconfined and confined. Our results on the strength of the multiyear-ridge ice samples loaded in tension suggest that, for strain rates from 10<sup>-5</sup> to 10<sup>-3</sup>/s and temperatures between -20° and -5°C, the tensile strength is insensitive to ice type. More tension tests should be done on ridge samples to confirm this observation, as we tested only nine samples at each test condition. This is an extremely small number of tests, given the variability of the material.

Ideally, we should be able to devise a system that allows us to adjust each data set to reflect the number of granular, columnar, and mixed ice samples that would be found in a 'representative' population of multi-year ridge samples. Orientation of the columnar ice samples would also have to be normalized. We would then be more certain of our conclusions made on the basis of combined data sets. It appears that this could be done by weighting the results of each test. The difficulty comes in defining the representative sample population. We expect it to be a function based on the number of ridges sampled and the number of samples taken from each ridge. Our current data set, involving data from 13 ridges, obviously is still too small to define this function with any certainty.

# **CONCLUSION**

The ridge building process itself appears to be extremely dynamic, based on the large percentage (approximately 80%) of mixed ice samples in our combined Phase I and II data set. It also appears that there may be a preference for the columnar ice blocks in a ridge to lie in a near horizontal position. This results in a dependency between mean compressive strength and sample orientation. Vertically cored samples tend to give a higher mean compressive strength than horizontal samples.

At the end of the first phase of this testing program it had become apparent that the ice structure in multi-year ridge samples was extremely variable and that the structure had a profound effect on the mechanical properties of the ice. The Phase II test results confirm this observation.

The ice structure analysis of the Phase II unconfined and confined compression tests shows that the effect of ice structure on the compressive strength of multi-year ridge ice samples is independent of the temperature, strain rates, and confining ratios that we used in our test series. We will, therefore, restate the following general conclusions made in the Phase I report:

- For columnar ice samples, the dominant characteristic that influences sample strength is crystal orientation. Columnar samples with the direction of crystal elongation near vertical and with a high degree of crystal c-axis alignment will have extremely high compressive strengths. When the direction of crystal elongation coincides with the direction of maximum shear at an angle of 45° to the load, the columnar samples have a very low compressive strength.
- A sample composed of both columnar and granular ice (classified as a mixed ice sample) will exhibit mechanical properties that are similar to a columnar sample if it contains 80% or more columnar ice.
- The orientation of the columnar fragments in a mixed ice sample influences the overall compressive strength and deformational characteristics of the sample. If the columnar fragments are oriented in a hard fail direction the sample will have a relatively high strength. Failure in these samples will occur in the granular material surrounding the columnar fragments.
- Mixed and granular ice samples show a significant decrease in strength with an increase in ice porosity.

The tensile strength of the multi-year ridge ice samples does not appear to be significantly influenced by ice structure. Rather, the porosity of the sample is the dominant characteristic with respect to strength.

The most significant conclusion drawn from this study is the importance of characterizing the ice structure of each test specimen. It becomes apparent that the structural analysis is necessary for the proper choice and interpretation of constitutive parameters. Without such an analysis, the development of a constitutive law for multi-year ridge ice based on the data from mechanical property tests on ridge samples will be misleading. An ice structure analysis should become a standard procedure in all multi-year ridge programs. We also suggest the compilation of ice structure data taken in field sample and testing programs from all available sources. This would provide an opportunity to determine representative ridge characteristics and, hence, may lend insight toward the overall ridge mechanical properties that should be used in design codes.

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## APPENDIX A: MULTI-YEAR RIDGE SAMPLE DATA

This appendix contains the results from the ice structure analysis of the Phase II tests performed on multi-year-ridge ice samples. These tests included unconfined and confined constant-strain-rate compression tests and uniaxial constant-strain-rate tension tests. The test type is denoted by UC, CC, and UT, respectively. STR.CC.-3-5/0.5 indicates the structural analysis of the confined compression tests done at a strain rate of  $10^{-3}/s$ , a temperature of  $-5^{\circ}$ C, and a  $\sigma_2/\sigma_1$  confinement ratio of 0.5. A similar strategy was used to identify all other test conditions. The parameters listed for

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each test are identified in Index A. The sample number RA01-262/289 gives the location and depth of the sample; that is, Ridge A, hole 1, at a depth of 262 to 289 cm. At a strain rate of 10<sup>-4</sup>/s and temperatures of -5 and -20°C in the unconfined compression tests, we tested matched pairs of vertically and horizontally cored ice samples. The vertical samples are labeled with a V and the horizontal samples with an H. All of the other samples in the Phase II portion of the test program were vertically cored.

## INDEX A

Column ni			
Compression	Tension	Symbol	Description
1	1	$\sigma_{\mathbf{m}}$ (lbf/in.2)	Peak stress or strength.
2	1	€ <sub>m</sub> (GL) (%)	Strain at $\sigma_m$ determined by DCDTs over a gauge length of 5.5 in. for the unconfined compression tests, 10.0 in. for the confined compression, and 4.5 in. for the tension tests.
3	3	$t_{m}$ (s)	Time to peak stress.
4	4	$E_{\rm i}({\rm GL})~(10^{\rm e}~{\rm lb/in.^2})$	Initial tangent modulus determined using strains found over the gauge length.
5		$t_{e}$ (s)	Time to end of test.
6	_	$\sigma_{\rm e}/\sigma_{ m m}$	Ratio of end stress at 5% full sample strait to peak stress.
7	5	n (°/∞)	Sample porosity at test temperature.
8	6	Classification	Classification of ice texture type. 1 = grar ular, 2 = columnar, and 3 = a mixture of granular and columnar.
9	7	% columnar	Estimation of % columnar ice in the sampl
10	8	Min (mm)	Measurement of the minimum, maximum,
11	9	Max (mm)	and mean columnar grain size as measured
12	10	Mean (mm)	across the width of the grain.
13	11	σ:z (degree)	Angle between the direction of crystal elongation and the load applied along the cylindrical axis of the sample.
14	12	σ: <b>c</b>	Angle between the load and the mean crys tal c-axis direction.
15	13	° spread	Degree of alignment of the c-axis. $UN = unaligned$ , and $R = random$ .
16	14	Min (mm)	Measurement of the minimum, maximum,
17		Max (mm)	and mean granular grain size.
18		Mean (mm)	
19	-	Type failure	Dominant failure mode. $L = longitudinal$ splitting, $S = shear$ , and $MS = multiple$ shear failure.
20	17	Location	Location of failed area in sample. T = top M = middle, and B = bottom of sample.

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	8411-C73/138	4.5	95.	4.43	067.	7.60		112.7	α·	07	•	-	4	12	62	0.9	<b>₩</b> )	1.0	5.0	S	1
	2411-127/154	1572	r. 2	O • •	3626	50.00	. 405	140.4	33	07			•				2	٠.	0.	ž.	3
	8812-132/159	2475	.05	04.9	.555	20.00	127.	8.48	-								•	Ú.	5.0	Σ	2
	4812-325/353	2157		5.30	262.	50.00	.476	49.3	a.	7.0							~	• 5	1.0	Z Z	2
	8812-047/274	1974	14.	5.10	.546	50.00	, 399	73.9	2 A	100			^	99	75	35				S	\$    -
	2312-673/266	55.22	• 5.9	5.70	585.	20.03	416	45.4	α,	<u>پ</u>	0	7	æ	00	20	50	4	1.0	5.0	S E	Ψ, I
	2313-155/153	2332		ე <b>გ•</b> •	.536	00°05	5440	4.0.4	a,	20	0	٣	^	9 9		≅	۲۱	1.0	0.	Z S	}- Σ
	FILE STP.CC.	STP.CC3-20/0.5	ſ,																		
	SAMPLE #	Ç	92	0	70	0.5	90	50	90	60	10		12	13	14	5	9	17	80	0	62
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	RA10-341/363	8252	.70	7.80	o e 4 •	50.00	.760	103.5	٣	10							~	٠,	1.0	Σ Σ	1
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25	R813-342/369	4534	1.00	07.0	.036	20.00	.652	33.2	<b>~</b>		0 - 4	2	~	œ		UN-19				S E	<b>-</b>
i	816-089/116	7622	64.	05.4	. 83°	4.50		85.0	~	15	2	?	~				4	٠.	1.0	S	en E
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	P318-353/390	2095	1.20	12.30	1.005	00°ū\$	.523	14.8	~	9			7	~	83	30	<b>#</b> 1	٠,5	1.0	Z.	αC
	FILE STR.CC5-20/3	-8-20/0.	2																		
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	RA16-90/117	0.424	>5.00	>5.300	.103			123.5	٣	5.2			4				4	٠,	1.0	S E	x
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	8A11-266/293	1039	.70	710	.297	2000	.743	6.50	٣	2.2	12	2	<b>a</b> U	64	30	30	₩	٠.	0.	¥	۵. ا
	RB16-156/185	>573	>5.00	> 5000	.282			127.1	3.4	20	σc	•	•	35	29	0			1.0	S E	Σ    -
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2014-232/254	70.0	•()•	92.	570.	109.2	3.8	08							2	0.0	0.4	<b>-</b>
2214-253/230	120.0	.012	.33	1.054	6.09	3.8	09			<b>U</b> 1				•	1.0	3.0	۰
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F826-151/183	61.5	, C.J.	.27	.931	55.5	~	25							•	1.0	3.0	αυ
4320-193/220	5.4	.007	.25	1.207	57.0	~	9 5	12	~	^	10	0 &	5.0	3	1.0	5.0	æ
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